Statewide Data Collection Strategic Plan

Create a strategic plan that will leverage existing technologies for implementing an enterprise-wide approach to data collection and procurement.

WHAT IS THE NEED?

Caltrans lags behind other State departments of transportation (DOTs) by not implementing a unified and coordinated statewide approach to data collection and management. This plan will help to minimize duplication and maximizes data value and operational efficiency through a collect once, use it many times approach.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

The approach for the Statewide Data Collection Strategic plan is comprised of six tasks below:

- Task 1: Project management and facilitation of teamwork and communication
- Task 2: Review existing data deficiencies and needs
- Task 3: Stakeholder outreach
- Task 4: Determine best practices to manage the data lifecycle
- Task 5: Synthesize findings to propose strategic plan
- Task 6: Pilot technology demonstration
WHAT IS OUR GOAL?

The objectives of this research project are:

• To develop a coordinated and repeatable process to evaluate and prioritize what, where, when, why, and how data should be acquired.
• To implement a coordinated statewide field asset data collection strategy based on a collect once, use it many times approach.
• To implement a coordinated statewide data procurement practice based on a procure once, use it many times approach.
• To identify data storage, discovery and access solution.
• To clearly define the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders who will help implement the plan.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

This project will help achieving significant net cost savings by capitalizing on the efficiencies gained through a “collect once, use it many times” strategy, maturing beyond a traditional siloed approach that has led to redundant data collection efforts covering the same study areas multiple times.

WHAT IS THE PROGRESS TO DATE?

Caltrans seeks to hire the experts at University of California, Berkeley and University of California, San Diego to develop the statewide data collection strategic plan. The contract was recently executed and the contract start date is February 1, 2021. The Kickoff meeting was held in May 2021.

For the Current Quarter:

• Interview representatives of the Task Team to aid in developing the customized surveys.
  ○ Technical Memo 1 detailed notes from the full Task Team discussion regarding the initial Google forms results.
  ○ Technical Memo 2 detailed the notes from the individual organization discussions.
• Build three new surveys that will be distributed across the organization.
  ○ Three sets of survey questions are under development. They will be informed by the learnings from the data governance web site.

Plan For Next Quarter:

• Assess survey tool Qualtrics.
• Assemble surveys for the three different organizations.
• Present surveys to the Task Team for review.
• Distribute surveys to the Caltrans employees.